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ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANT RESOURCES OF MAHUR-KINWAT REGION OF NANDED DIST. MAHARASHTRA

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ABSTRACT

The present ethanobotanical survey was conducted in Sarsam village of Nanded district (Maharashtra, India) to collect information on the use of medicinal plants. Information presented in this paper was gathered from the Sarsam tribes using an integrated approach of botanical collections, group discussions and interviews with questionnaires in the years April 2009 – may 2010. The informants interviewed were local villagers, village headmen and tribal folks. The 14 ethnomedicinal plant species distributed in 11 families is documented in this study. The medicinal plants used by *tribes* are listed with Latin name, family, local name, parts used, mode of preparation and medicinal uses. Generally, fresh part of the plant was used for the preparation of medicine. We observed that the among 14 documented ethnomedicinal plants, were mostly used to cure dysentery and diarrhea (4), wound and skin disease (5), asthma (2),jaundice (2), liver problems (2), ulcers (2) tumor (2) constipation & digestion (6), piles (4) immunostimulant activity (3), urinary complaint & kidney stone (2), stomach (3) , cholesterol control (1) hair problems (3) rheumatism (3) , snake bites (2) ,mosquito repellent & leech repellent (3) & others. The results of this study showed that these tribal people still depend on medicinal plants in Mahur- Kinwat forest areas.

INTRODUCTION

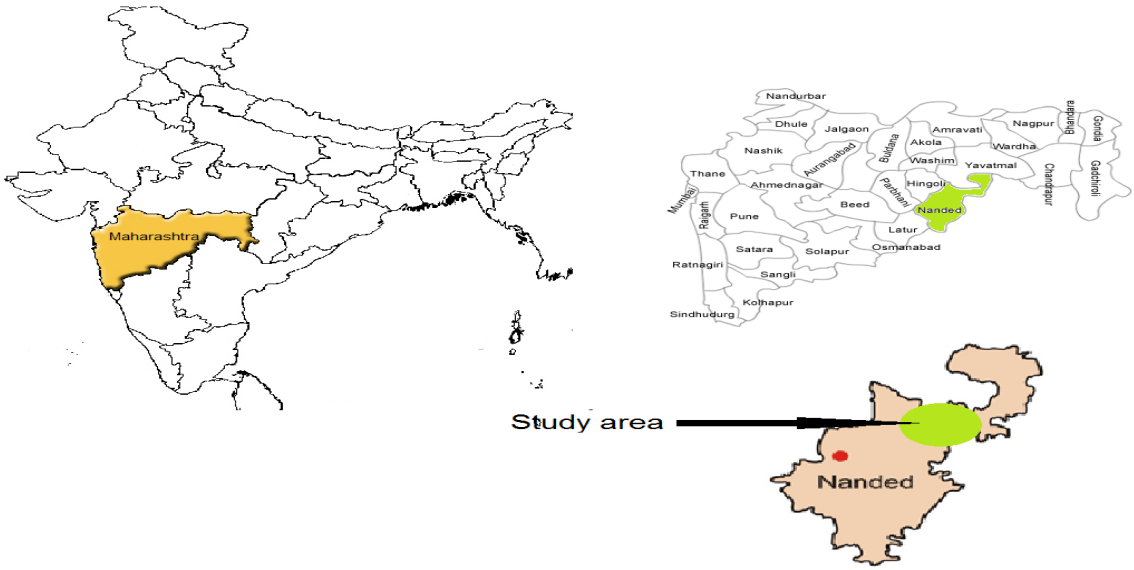
Plant and plant product have always influenced human culture. All indigenous remedies and medicine have their root in one way or another in folk medicine and ethanobotany. Many of these remedies have survived through age and passed from generation to generation through word of mouth with common belief of prevail among the tribal that any breach of leaking these information would result in some mishappening to the concern.

The traditional medicine raging is lost glory throughout world today. The WHO emphatically stated that without the participation of traditional medicine its goal of "health for all" would remain a mirage[1]. The keen interest shown by WHO in indigenous system of medicine is because of fact that 3/4th of world population is utilizing herbal medicine[2]. In our country also traditional systems of medicine is making dramatically revival[3]. Our country concerned and systematic efforts are being is to enumerate potential Ethanomedicinal plant and are screened phytochemically with a view to contribute to global search for herbal medicine and to conserve such herbs[4]. A carefully ethnobotanical investigation may become invaluable to rescue knowledge in imminent danger of being lost and to find out new bioactive compounds in plants[5].

In this study, an attempt was made to assess the potential of medicinal plant used by tribal people Sarsam of Nanded dist. Maharashtra.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The ethanobotanical explorations of Sarsam tribes were undertaken during April 2009-may 2010. The study area of present work is situated in Northeast of Nanded Dist. It has the environment, cloud with dense forest. It is situated at 19°38′ & 77°83′ longitude and latitude.



During survey study, the several field visits were made. The local physicians practicing indigenous system of medicine, village headmen and tribal folks were interviewed and information was collected. To determine the authenticity of information collected during fieldwork, repeated verification of data from different informants and in different areas at different times was done. The collected medicinal plants were identified and authenticated form taxonomist. The data in this study report are based on the information gathered in field mainly includes local name, part of plant used, preparation and remedies, disease treated.

Figure 1. Some medicinal plants used by Sarsam tribes.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The ethnobotanical data serve as a base for new compounds with active principles for phytochemical, pharmacognostical, pharmacological and clinical research. It is the search and research, which keeps adding new drugs and new foods for the welfare of mankind6. The data were arranged according to plant botanical names in alphabetical manner. Information about botanical name, local name (Marathi language), part of plant used, disease condition, method of preparation and administration are given in Table 1.

Table 1. Medicinal plants used to cure health aliment in Sarsam village.

Botanical name or family Local name *Plant part* Ailment Preparation/mode of administration

Botanical name and family	Local name	Plant used	Aliment	Preparation / mode of administration
Coccinia indica L. F:cucurbitaceae	Tondle	Fruit	Mouth ulcers, diabetes jaundice	orally
Aegle marmelos L. F:Ruteceae	Bael	Leaves & Fruit	Mosquito repellent, gastrointestinal problems,constipation, piles, urinary complaints	Orally/juice
Allium sativum L. F:Amaryllidaceae	Lasun	Fruit	Regulates blood sugar, reduces cholesterol, cardiovascular disease	orally /in daily diet
Aloe vera L. F:Liliaceae	Korfad	Whole plant	Cosmetics, skin problems, wounds, burns, liver complaint, immune system deficiencies, ulcer, inflammatory bowl diseases.	Orally/In the form of jel/juice
Ecbolium ligustrinum L. F :Acanthaceae	Ranaboli/ Dhacta adulasa/ Hirvi aboli	Roots	Jaundice,rheumatism	Juice
Annona squamosa Linn. F:Annonaceae	Shitafal	Leaves Juice	Lice Killer	Topically
		Fruit	immunity, asthama, increased sugar level	Orally
Ocimum gratissimum L. F:Lamiaceae	Vantulasi,Talimkhana	Seeds	Piles, for improving digestion, stomachache	Orally.

Ricinus communis L. Euphorbiaceae	Arandi	Seeds	Oil is laxative, arthritic diseases, body ointments, hair growth, bone regeneration	paste , external use.
Capparis zeylanica Linn. F:Capparceae	Waghata	Leaves Fruit	Immunostimulant activity,piles. Juice snake bite,wound healing.	orally
Amorphophallus paeoniifolius F:Araceae	Suran/Sur-ajkand	Root	Asthma, digestion, abdominal pain, piles, dysentery	Orally
Careya arborea Roxb. F:Lecythidaceae	Kumbhi.	Leaves	Skin diseases, tumor, leech repellent.	Orally.
		Fruit	Leech repellent, tumor, digestion promoter, dysentery, astringent.	Orally
		Bark	Snake bite, wound healing.	Orally.
Vitex negundo L. F:Lamiaceae	Nirgudi	Leaves & Roots	Skin diseases, liver disorder, rheumatic pain, backache, mosquito repellent.	Orally and Topically
Murraya koenigii L. F:Rutaceae	Karipatta	Leaves	Anemia, digestion, diarrhea, hair fall & dandruff	Juice of leaves/ orally
Clerodendrum multiflorum. LF. F:Lamiaceae	Takalani	Leaves & Roots	Stomachache, dysentery, tumor, skin problems, wound healing.	Orally.

The present study, The 14 medicinal plant are reported as medicinally useful for rural and tribal population of Sarsam. Analysis of data shows plant used for 20 type of disease, and uses 14 species of medicinal plant belong to 11 families. 4 Dysentery and diarrhea, 5 Species used for treatment of wound and skin disease, 2 for asthma, 2 Liver problems,2 Ulcers, 2 Tumer,6 Constipation & digestion, 4 Piles,3 Immunostimulant,2 Urinary complaint & kidney stone,3 Hair problems,3 Stomachache, 1 Cholesterol control, 3 Rheumatism, 2 Snake bite, 3 Mosquito

repellent & leech repellent and others. The Sarsam tribes use specific plant parts and specific dosages for the treatment of ailments. The plant products are consumed raw or in the form of a decoction, oral treatment and as juices or raw paste when applied externally. The parts of the plant most used for medicinal purposes are leaves, root, stem, fruits, the complete aerial parts, the whole plant, barks (root and stem). Juice (almost mix with water) and paste are the main methods of preparation, either for oral or for external administration. For topical use, the most important methods used are direct application of the paste. The local tribes use more than one plant either separately or mixed together to cure diseases. Generally, fresh part of the plant is used for the preparation of medicine. When fresh plant parts are not available, well preserved dried parts are also used. Majority of medicinal plants are used as simple drugs and some plants are used with some other plant parts. This valuable and time tasted ethanomedicinal plant of tribal and rural population is threatened because of deforestation and modernization so appropriate measure should take to preserve their plant. Scientific investigation though the evaluation of plant for their biological activity and active principle should carried out. This will help to find out new lead for welfare of mankind under the present day patent regime.

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